

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

USDELMC

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USCINCLANT

USLOSACLANT

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: IMPROVEMENT OF THE NATO DEFENSE PLANNING REVIEW
PROCESS-THE BALANCE

1. WE WOULD LIKE TO EXAMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF NATO CON-
DUCTING ITS FORCE CAPABILITIES ANALYSES ON THE BASIS OF
ALL REPEAT ALL FORCES THAT ARE LIKELY TO BE AVAILABLE IN A
CRISIS OR WAR, WHETHER OR NOT THEY ARE CURRENTLY EARMARKED
OR ASSIGNED. US AND FRANCE, IN PARTICULAR, HAVE CERTAIN
FORCES EITHER NOT LISTED IN REPLIES TO DPQ OR SHOWN UNDER
QTE OTHER FORCES UNQTE, WHICH NEVERTHELESS REPRESENT
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CAPABILITIES WHICH SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BY MNC'S. WE KNOW

THESE FORCES ARE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION BY THE SOVIETS. THEY ARE ALSO ACCOUNTED FOR IN SUCH DOCUMENTS AS THE CENTAG PLAN. HOWEVER, AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, MNC'S ARE CONSTRAINED IN THEIR ANALYSES AND PLANS TO CONSIDER DPQ EARMARKED AND ASSIGNED FORCES ONLY. THE RESULT PRECLUDES AN OBJECTIVE ASSESSMENT OF THE BALANCE AND MAY LEAD TO POSSIBLE UNREALISTIC STATEMENTS OF FORCE REQUIREMENTS, AND PERHAPS UNREALISTIC FORCE PLANNING BY THE ALLIES. TO REMEDY THIS SITUATION, WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPLORE WITH THE ALLIES HOW WE MIGHT GAIN ALLIANCE SUPPORT FOR MNC'S USE OF REALISTIC NATIONAL FORCE LEVELS (RESOURCES) IN THEIR ANALYTICAL PROCESSES.

2. THE FIRST THING THAT SEEMS NEEDED IS TO GET REALISTIC FORCE LEVELS ON THE RECORD FOR PURPOSES OF ANALYSIS AND TO

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GET ON WITH AN INTERNATIONALLY CONDUCTED ANALYSIS EFFORT USING CREDIBLE METHODOLOGY, ASSUMPTIONS AND DATA. SUCH AN UNDERTAKING WOULD REQUIRE THE FOLLOWING:

A. IN ADDITION TO THE PRESENT CATEGORIES OF QTE EARMARKED OR ASSIGNED UNQTE, AN UNDERSTANDING OF QTE OTHER FORCES UNQTE THAT WOULD PERMIT THE MNCS TO TAKE THEM INTO ACCOUNT. FOR EXAMPLE WE MIGHT USE THE TERM QTE NATO DESIGNATED UNQTE, TO INCLUDE ALL NATIONAL FORCES THAT COULD BE EMPLOYED AND POSSIBLY WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN NATO/WARSAW PACT WAR. THAT IS, NATO MIGHT DIRECT MNCS FOR ANALYTICAL PURPOSES, TO USE ALL FORCES REPORTED IN THE DPQ. THIS WOULD REQUIRE COUNTRIES TO REPORT AVAILABILITY TIMES AND READINESS STATUS FOR THESE FORCES, E.G., BELGIAN NATIONAL COMMAND FORCES ARE NOW REPORTED AS READY AT SIMPLE ALERT. WE COULD FORESEE THAT THESE FORCES COULD BE IDENTIFIED IN REPLIES TO DPQ-74.

B. A MORE REALISTIC 1974 MC-161. AS YOU ARE AWARE, WE HAVE INITIATED A PROGRAM TO ACHIEVE, IN MC-161, AN IMPROVED ASSESSMENT OF THE WP MILITARY CAPABILITY.

3. GIVEN A REPEATED FAILURE TO GET COUNTRIES TO COMMIT

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ALL THEIR FORCES (THIS APPLIES TO THE US MORE THAN OTHERS), WE WOULD WELCOME YOUR VIEWS ON THE FEASIBILITY OF HAVING THE US MILREP ATTEMPT TO INITIATE WITHIN THE MC, ACTION TO DEVELOP GUIDELINES AND TASKING FOR NATO TO CONDUCT AN ANALYSIS OF THE RELATIVE NATO/WARSAW PACT CAPABILITIES. THIS ANALYSIS WOULD BE SIMILAR TO THE DOD ANALYSIS OF THE BALANCE USING AN ACCEPTABLE DATA BASE, E.G., THE DPQ SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION TABLES AND THE UPDATED MC-161 AS A

STARTING POINT. WE RECOGNIZE THAT STUDY ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY, AS WELL AS DATA BASES WOULD HAVE TO REFLECT INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT, AND IN THIS RESPECT WOULD EXPECT TO ASSIST NATO STAFFS.

4. IF WE ARE TO BRING NATO TO ACCEPT ANALYSES ON THIS BROADENED BASIS, WHAT ARE THE CHANCES OF GETTING A DECISION AT THE DECEMBER DPC MEETING TO USE THE DATA BASES INDICATED ABOVE?

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